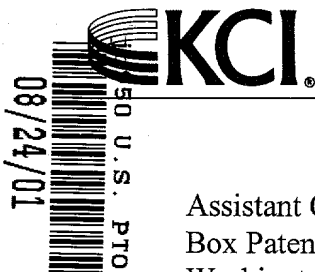


08/27/01

A



24 August 2001



Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Box Patent Application
Washington, D.C. 20231

Re: New Utility Patent Application for
"Vacuum Assisted Tissue Treatment System"
Inventor: Boynton, et al.
Filed: Herewith
Serial No.: n/a; Batch No.: n/a
Attorney Docket No.: VAC.715

Dear Sir or Madam:

Enclosed herewith, please find the following for filing in the above referenced matter:

1. Utility Patent Application Transmittal (1 page);
2. Fee Transmittal (1 page);
3. Application Data Sheet (6 pages);
4. Specification (17 pages);
5. Formal Drawings (4 sheets);
6. Declaration (2 pages);
7. Declaration Additional Inventors Supplemental Sheet (2 pages);
8. Power of Attorney (7 forms);
9. Check no. 489240 in the amount of \$1,158.00; and
10. Self-addressed itemized postcard to be returned upon receipt.

Please charge any additional fee required to Deposit Account no. 50-0326. A copy of this letter is attached for accounting purposes.

Please contact the undersigned for any questions or concerns at (210) 255-4543. Thank you for your assistance.

Yours very truly,

Nadeem G. Bridi
Attorney for the Applicant
Reg. No. 42,361

Certificate of Mailing

I hereby certify that this is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR § 1.10 on the date indicated below and is addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box New App, Washington, D.C. 20231

By:
Typed Name: Nadeem Bridi

Express Mail Label No.: EL639399744US
Date of Deposit: 24 August 2001

Mailing:
P.O. Box 659508
San Antonio, Texas 78265-9508
1-800-531-5396 / Fax (210) 255-6998

Corporate:
8023 Vantage Drive
San Antonio, Texas 78230-4726
(210) 524-9000

Manufacturing:
4958 Stout Drive
San Antonio, Texas 78219-4334
(210) 662-9191

09/939166-002401

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → ☒

PTO/SB/05 (03-01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0032

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL

(Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 CFR 1.53(b))

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Attorney Docket No. | VAC.715 |
| First Inventor | BOYNTON, Thomas |
| Title | Vacuum Assisted Tissue Treatment System |
| Express Mail Label No. | EL639399744US |

APPLICATION ELEMENTS

See MPEP chapter 600 concerning utility patent application contents.

- ☒ Fee Transmittal Form (e.g., PTO/SB/17)
(Submit an original and a duplicate for fee processing)
- ☐ Applicant claims small entity status
See 37 CFR 1.27.
- ☒ Specification [Total Pages 17]
(preferred arrangement set forth below)
 - Descriptive title of the invention
 - Cross Reference to Related Applications
 - Statement Regarding Fed sponsored R & D
 - Reference to sequence listing, a table, or a computer program listing appendix
 - Background of the Invention
 - Brief Summary of the Invention
 - Brief Description of the Drawings (if filed)
 - Detailed Description
 - Claim(s)
 - Abstract of the Disclosure
- ☒ Drawing(s) (35 U.S.C. 113) [Total Sheets 4]
- Oath or Declaration [Total Pages 4]
 - ☒ Newly executed (original or copy)
Copy from a prior application (37 CFR 1.63 (d))
 - ☐ (for continuation/divisional with Box 18 completed)
 - ☐ **DELETION OF INVENTOR(S)**
Signed statement attached deleting inventor(s) named in the prior application, see 37 CFR 1.63(d)(2) and 1 33(b).
- ☒ Application Data Sheet. See 37 CFR 1.76

ADDRESS TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Box Patent Application
Washington, DC 20231

- ☐ CD-ROM or CD-R in duplicate, large table or Computer Program (Appendix)
- Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission (if applicable, all necessary)
 - ☐ Computer Readable Form (CRF)
 - Specification Sequence Listing on:
 - ☐ CD-ROM or CD-R (2 copies); or
 - ☐ paper
 - ☐ Statements verifying identity of above copies

ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION PARTS

- ☐ Assignment Papers (cover sheet & document(s))
- ☐ 37 CFR 3.73(b) Statement (when there is an assignee) ☒ Power of Attorney
- ☐ English Translation Document (if applicable)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)/PTO-1449 ☐ Copies of IDS Citations
- ☐ Preliminary Amendment
- ☒ Return Receipt Postcard (MPEP 503) (Should be specifically itemized)
- ☐ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) (if foreign priority is claimed)
- ☐ Nonpublication Request under 35 U.S.C. 122 (b)(2)(B)(i). Applicant must attach form PTO/SB/35 or its equivalent.
- ☒ Other. Cover letter

18. If a CONTINUING APPLICATION, check appropriate box, and supply the requisite information below and in a preliminary amendment, or in an Application Data Sheet under 37 CFR 1.76:

☐ Continuation ☐ Divisional ☐ Continuation-in-part (CIP)

Prior application information:

Examiner

of prior application No. _____

Group Art Unit: _____

For CONTINUATION OR DIVISIONAL APPS only: The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which an oath or declaration is supplied under Box 5b, is considered a part of the disclosure of the accompanying continuation or divisional application and is hereby incorporated by reference. The incorporation can only be relied upon when a portion has been inadvertently omitted from the submitted application parts.

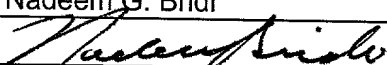
19. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

☐ Customer Number or Bar Code Label

(Insert Customer No. or Attach bar code label here)

or ☒ Correspondence address below

| | | | | | |
|---------|---|-----------|--------------|----------|--------------|
| Name | Nadeem G. Bridi, c/o Kinetic Concepts, Inc. | | | | |
| Address | P.O. Box 659508 | | | | |
| City | San Antonio | State | TX | Zip Code | 78265-9508 |
| Country | USA | Telephone | 210-255-4543 | Fax | 210-255-4440 |

| | | | |
|-------------------|---|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| Name (Print/Type) | Nadeem G. Bridi | Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) | 42,361 |
| Signature |  | Date | 24 August 2001 |

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box Patent Application, Washington, DC 20231.

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FEE TRANSMITTAL for FY 2001

Patent fees are subject to annual revision

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$) 1,158.00

Complete if Known

| | |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| Application Number | n/a |
| Filing Date | Herewith |
| First Named Inventor | BOYNTON, Thomas |
| Examiner Name | n/a |
| Group Art Unit | n/a |
| Attorney Docket No. | VAC.715 |

METHOD OF PAYMENT

1. ☐ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge indicated fees and credit any overpayments to.
- Deposit Account Number **50-0326**
- Deposit Account Name **Kinetic Concepts, Inc.**
- ☒ Charge Any Additional Fee Required Under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17
- ☐ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27
2. ☒ Payment Enclosed:
- ☒ Check ☐ Credit card ☐ Money Order ☐ Other

FEE CALCULATION

1. BASIC FILING FEE

| Large Entity | Small Entity | Fee Code (\$) | Fee Code (\$) | Fee Description | Fee Paid |
|--------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|------------------------|--------------|
| 101 | 201 | 710 | 355 | Utility filing fee | \$710.00 |
| 106 | 206 | 320 | 160 | Design filing fee | |
| 107 | 207 | 490 | 245 | Plant filing fee | |
| 108 | 208 | 710 | 355 | Reissue filing fee | |
| 114 | 214 | 150 | 75 | Provisional filing fee | |
| SUBTOTAL (1) | | | | | (\$) 710.00 |

2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES

| Total Claims | Extra Claims | Fee from below | Fee Paid |
|--------------------|---------------|----------------|----------|
| 36 | -20** = 16.00 | X 18.00 | = 288.00 |
| 5 | -3** = 2 | X 80.00 | = 160.00 |
| Multiple Dependent | | 0.00 | = 0.00 |

| Large Entity | Small Entity | Fee Code (\$) | Fee Code (\$) | Fee Description |
|--------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|--|
| 103 | 203 | 18 | 9 | Claims in excess of 20 |
| 102 | 202 | 80 | 40 | Independent claims in excess of 3 |
| 104 | 204 | 270 | 135 | Multiple dependent claim, if not paid |
| 109 | 209 | 80 | 40 | ** Reissue independent claims over original patent |
| 110 | 210 | 18 | 9 | ** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent |

SUBTOTAL (2) (\$) 448.00

*or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above

FEE CALCULATION (continued)

3. ADDITIONAL FEES

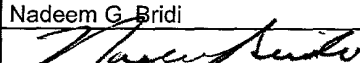
| Large Entity | Small Entity | Fee Code (\$) | Fee Code (\$) | Fee Description | Fee Paid |
|--------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|--|----------|
| 105 | 205 | 130 | 65 | Surcharge - late filing fee or oath | |
| 127 | 227 | 50 | 25 | Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet | |
| 139 | 239 | 130 | 130 | Non-English specification | |
| 147 | 247 | 2,520 | 2,520 | For filing a request for <i>ex parte</i> reexamination | |
| 112 | 212 | 920* | 920* | Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action | |
| 113 | 213 | 1,840* | 1,840* | Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action | |
| 115 | 215 | 110 | 55 | Extension for reply within first month | |
| 116 | 216 | 390 | 195 | Extension for reply within second month | |
| 117 | 217 | 890 | 445 | Extension for reply within third month | |
| 118 | 218 | 1,390 | 695 | Extension for reply within fourth month | |
| 128 | 228 | 1,890 | 945 | Extension for reply within fifth month | |
| 119 | 219 | 310 | 155 | Notice of Appeal | |
| 120 | 220 | 310 | 155 | Filing a brief in support of an appeal | |
| 121 | 221 | 270 | 135 | Request for oral hearing | |
| 138 | 238 | 1,510 | 1,510 | Petition to institute a public use proceeding | |
| 140 | 240 | 110 | 55 | Petition to revive - unavoidable | |
| 141 | 241 | 1,240 | 620 | Petition to revive - unintentional | |
| 142 | 242 | 1,240 | 620 | Utility issue fee (or reissue) | |
| 143 | 243 | 440 | 220 | Design issue fee | |
| 144 | 244 | 600 | 300 | Plant issue fee | |
| 122 | 222 | 130 | 130 | Petitions to the Commissioner | |
| 123 | 223 | 50 | 50 | Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(q) | |
| 126 | 226 | 180 | 180 | Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt | |
| 581 | 281 | 40 | 40 | Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties) | |
| 146 | 246 | 710 | 355 | Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR § 1.129(a)) | |
| 149 | 249 | 710 | 355 | For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR § 1.129(b)) | |
| 179 | 279 | 710 | 355 | Request for Continued Examination (RCE) | |
| 169 | 269 | 900 | 900 | Request for expedited examination of a design application | |

Other fee (specify) _____

*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid

SUBTOTAL (3) (\$) 0.00

SUBMITTED BY

| | | | | | |
|-------------------|---|----------------------------------|-------------|-----------|--------------|
| Name (Print/Type) | Nadeem G. Bridi | Registration No (Attorney/Agent) | 42,361 | Telephone | 210-255-4544 |
| Signature |  | Date | 24-Aug-2001 | | |

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

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